

who think of us, who are being blotted out of existence by the war.

For three years I have been at the front. I have left in Belgium my entire family and have never received any news of those I love. It is enough to say to you how terrible our situation is. Also, I have been very touched in knowing the sentiments which exist in the United States for my unhappy country and its brave soldiers.

We have every hope and confidence in the final victory of the allies, who will return to our relatives and families everything, since the great American Republic has joined the allies in the struggle of right and justice against barbarism.

I finish, Miss, in assuring you of my sincere remembrance.

EDMOND LUCAS,
Sergeant, Sixth Infantry, D. 123, Field Army,
Belgium.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES.

To the Editor:—Public health nurses have greatly increased during the past few years. Hundreds, perhaps thousands, of small towns and rural communities, as well as large cities, have come to regard them as indispensable community servants. Their service represents at least a minimum of skilled nursing which can usually be supplemented with safety by family, neighbors or trained attendants. Their value as health agents is now pretty generally recognized by health officers, school boards and manufacturers, as well as by the public itself.

Because their work is largely preventive, one of their chief values is that they persuade many people to call upon their doctor before an illness has become serious enough to have convinced them that it was necessary to consult him. Nevertheless, their opportunities as health teachers most often depend upon and follow their entry to the homes in time of need due to illness. They are very dependent upon the local physicians because it is an invariable rule that no visiting or public health nurse shall perform any treatment nor administer any medicine, nor even make repeated calls upon a patient except with the consent and direction of the family physician.

Oftentimes these facts are not understood by country doctors, and consequently they refuse to call for the nurses' assistance, and even discourage their patients and their families from doing so. This situation is becoming less and less frequent, but still exists in some localities and among some doctors.

More than ever, these nurses will be needed now that so many physicians are being called to military duty, and yet they cannot serve the people unless the doctors who remain at home will recognize and call upon them.

The members of the National Organization for Public Health Nursing, among whom are many Red Cross town and country nurses, have instructed me to bring this matter to the attention of the state medical associations in the hope that they will see fit to urge their county societies to interpret the work of public health nurses to their members, to clear away the misunderstandings which are now in some places preventing the best and fullest use of public health nurses and to encourage employment of their services.

Representative women in this field will welcome opportunities to discuss the subject before State or local associations.

Sincerely yours,
ELLA PHILLIPS CRANDALL,
Executive Secretary.

New York City, October 19, 1917.

RESIGNATION FROM MEDICAL FACULTY.

November 6, 1917.

Dr. William F. Southard,
President Board of Trustees,
College of Physicians and Surgeons,
San Francisco, California.

Dear Doctor:

I hereby tender my resignation as Professor of Nervous and Mental Diseases in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, San Francisco.

I am prompted in this action by the condition of the college. The standing which this college now holds is regrettable to the extreme. I feel that in order to secure recognition as a reputable college that it will be necessary for the college to conform with the demands of the council of medical education of the A. M. A.

I furthermore feel that inefficiency permeates the whole teaching and executive staff, and in order to secure proper organization I think it advisable that the members of the faculty resign, thereby relieving your board of any embarrassment which might otherwise be present in such reorganization.

Should you completely reorganize in conformity with the request stated and which reorganization would meet the approval of the Government and the council of education of the A. M. A., then you are at liberty to invite me to again occupy the chair of Nervous and Mental Diseases should you so wish.

I trust that you will not misconstrue my motive in thus resigning, for I have the welfare of the students at heart, which students I feel should receive as thorough a medical education as is possible to give them.

With my best personal wishes to you, and wishing you every success in a reorganization of the college, which I trust will take place, I am,

Very truly yours,
OTTO G. FREYERMUTH.

(After this letter was submitted for publication, Dr. Southard was asked for any comments he wished to offer. His letter follows:)

To the Editor:

In reply to your favor of the 9th inst., I will simply say that Dr. Freyermuth's resignation was requested for the good of the medical school. I have no comments to make at this time, as the plan of reorganization is now in the hands of the board of trustees and faculty of the College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Very truly yours,
W. F. SOUTHARD.

San Francisco, Nov. 12, 1917.

(A copy of Dr. Southard's letter was submitted to Dr. Freyermuth, whose reply follows:)

To the Editor:

Yours of the 13th inst. with a copy of the letter of Dr. W. F. Southard just at hand. In reply will state that neither directly nor indirectly, at any time or place, has my resignation from the faculty of the Physicians and Surgeons College been officially demanded, requested or even suggested.

On the contrary, on November 5th I personally informed Dr. Southard that I could no longer remain with the College. Yet, he requested me not to resign until the A. M. A. had given the College